From History Department: Richard Jackson

  29 March 2018

Dear Parents

**HISTORY DEPARTMENT SIXTH FORM TRIP TO US EAST COAST OCTOBER 2018**

The Abingdon History Department would like to take a Sixth Form group on a five day tour of the Eastern USA to study the development of the first English colony into the modern United States of America. The visit has been designed to include living history exhibits at Jamestown and Williamsburg, battlefields of the Revolutionary War and sites of constitutional significance in Washington DC, Philadelphia and New York. The visit will be both inspiring and useful to boys studying the American Revolution non-British paper as well as the US Civil Rights and Modern Warfare themes papers at A Level. Of course, the story of the birth of the United States and its place in the Anglosphere will be of enormous general interest to any inquiring teenager.

Our intention is to visit Washington DC, Virginia, Pennsylvania and New York during the October half term break. It will be the parents’ responsibility to deliver and collect boys from Heathrow Airport. The projected tour, undertaken through Kipling Tours Ltd, will include the following:

* Visits to Historic Jamestown, the Jamestown Settlement and accommodation in the Historic District of Colonial Williamsburg;
* A visit to the Yorktown Revolutionary War battlefield and museum;
* A night in Washington DC and visits to the the National Mall, the US Capitol Building, the National Archives and the Freemasons Washington Memorial;
* A walking tour of Philadelphia, including Independence Hall;
* Two evenings in New York, including a walking tour of the Battle of Brooklyn, the financial district (where several key Revolutionary War buildings remain), the New York Historical Society Museum and a visit to the iconic Katz’s Deli with some leisure and shopping time in Manhatten.

The cost of the five day tour should be no more than £1800 (as long as a minimum of twenty students go). This price includes all expenses and some set piece meals (food is cheap and plentiful at all of the locations we visit). The trip will be accompanied by members of the history department and local guides. Payment for the trip can be made through WisePay for which instructions will be sent through separately to your contact email address held on iSAMS.

Please note that as we incur costs as soon as we book the trip there is a non-refundable deposit of £300 if you sign your son up for the trip, followed by two further payments of £750. Please note that by completing the consent form you are committing to the total cost of the trip (providing the trip proceeds). The completed consent form secures your son’s place, and thereafter the school will proceed to make bookings and reservations to procure the best possible deals. The proposed flight schedule is as follows:

**Virgin Airways Flight Schedule / Monday 15 – Sunday 21 October 2018**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Flight Number** | **Tour Dates** | **Flight Route** | **Depart Time** | **Arrive Time** |
| VS021 | Monday 15October 2018 | LHR – Washington | 11.30pm | 2.50pm |
| VS010 | Saturday 20 October 2018 | New York - LHR | 9pm | 9.15am (+1) |

**If you would like your son to join the trip please could you complete the online consent form via the link below no later than Friday 27 April 2018, after which you will be sent an invitation to WisePay to make payment.**

[US Battlefields 2018 Consent Form](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1BWYeJxDy7GhgD9XuSxkbJTmL11yLjH4I4h1DOyZ9A_Y/edit?ts=5abcce38)

Yours sincerely

Richard Jackson – History Department

richard.jackson@abingdon.org.uk